

Vol. XI.

No. 11.

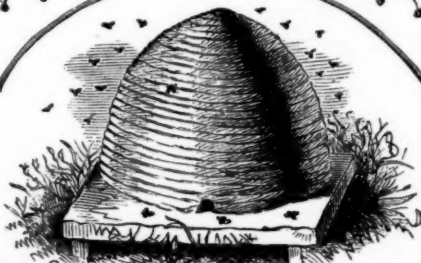
NOVEMBER, 1875.



THE

AMERICAN

BEE JOURNAL



A MONTHLY MAGAZINE
DEVOTED EXCLUSIVELY TO BEE CULTURE.

Established in 1861, by the late Samuel Wagner.

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American Bee Journal.

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AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL

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AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL,

DEVOTED EXCLUSIVELY TO BEE CULTURE.

Vol. XI.

CHICAGO, NOVEMBER, 1875.

No. 11.

Seasonable Hints.

During the month of November, though we may have some warm pleasant days, bees will remain quiet and fly out very little. All work with them should have been done before now, and they be disturbed as little as possible. No feeding of liquids should now be done; it is too late to give syrup. We are certain that much of the fatality among bees has been caused by *too much water* in the food, whether it has been fed to them in syrup, or they take it in the honey, which being gathered late in the Fall, has not lost the watery particles by evaporation. We have seen honey in hives, often in this state. The bees when not able to fly and discharge the fecal matter, are injured by taking too much water. To avoid this, if it is necessary to feed them, give sugar-candy, instead of syrup. We find this the best way of feeding at all times, when bees are not able to fly out every day.

By the middle or last of this month, according to the weather, and time varying of course with the locality, bees must be put into winter quarters or protected on their summer stands. It is not well to house them too early.

A cold time should be chosen to take them in, and they should be moved easily, so as not to stir them up. We have carried fifty hives into a cellar without a buzz from a bee; and then again by an unlucky jar, a colony has been stirred up so that it did not quiet down for hours.

Under favorable conditions, bees in the winter remain very quiet. Any noise from the hive is evidence of discomfort. As long as you do not hear from them you may be sure all is well; but if a constant noise is heard be sure something is wrong.

Much has been said about ventilation in the winter. We have found that very little is necessary where the bee-quilts are

kept on. These absorb the moisture as it passes off from the cluster, and yet prevents all draughts through the hive.

After your bees are put away for the winter, let them alone. To those who winter them out of doors, we can only say: be sure that they have plenty of honey in the hive, while at the same time they have empty comb, in which to cluster. It will require much more honey for those left out of doors, and they should, by all means, be sheltered from the rays of the sun upon the entrances. This is more dangerous than cold or snow, as it tempts the bees to activity in weather too chilly for them to fly. We have all seen bee-hives covered with a snow bank for weeks, without injury. Whether bees are in houses, cellars, or out-of-doors, a quilt, carpet or mat, over the tops of the frames, is a great protection worth many times the cost and trouble.

E. S. T.

At this reason of the year, when we are beginning to feel that winter is near and to desire to keep with us, in our homes, some of the bloom of summer, it is well to know just which plants we can best preserve and how to care for them. "Window Gardening," published by H. T. Williams, of the *Horticulturist*, New York, is valuable authority on the treatment of all house plants. We heartily commend it to all lovers of the beautiful.

Many of our subscribers send a request to Mr. Isham for directions for getting up his boxes. Will he kindly send us such description for the next number of *THE AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL*?

R. WILKIN, of Oskaloosa, Iowa, has removed to San Buenaventura, Ventura Co., California, with two hundred colonies of Italian bees.

Arkansas and Apiculture.

There is, perhaps, no territory of equal proportions to that known as "the South," that is blessed with so many natural advantages, and that has so many possibilities of material prosperity. We have, in common with many apiculturists of this country, often thought that grand and profitable results of bee-keeping would be reached in that section of country, as soon as its true value became known, and the prejudices of former education had been overcome.

Having received an invitation from the Hon. J. M. Loughborough, Land Commissioner of the St. Louis, Iron Mountain and Southern Railroad, at Little Rock, and Col. T. B. Mills, of Little Rock, publisher of the *Spirit of Arkansas*, to accompany an editorial excursion through the State of Arkansas, for the purpose of seeing with our own eyes, things as they were, and of conversing with its people at their homes—the publisher of the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL accepted, and started on Monday, Sept. 27, for St. Louis, to join the party.

On Tuesday, at 9 P. M., a special train started for the Sunny South, with 150 excursionists, representing that many of the leading papers of the North-west. The train consisted of a powerful engine trimmed with flags, four Pullman Palace Sleeping Cars, one day car, etc., all belonging to the Iron Mountain R. R.

After passing Moark, we came to Judsonia where a Baptist University is located. It is under the charge of the Rev. B. Thomas, M. A., and gives thorough instruction in all useful branches of learning.

Arriving at Little Rock, the capital of the State, at 2:30 P. M. the next day, we enjoyed the hospitalities of Col. Thos. Lafferty, a whole-souled and successful dry goods merchant of that city.

Here we met unexpectedly our old friend JUDSON AUSTIN, Esq., whose pleasant face and mature counsels cheered and smoothed our pathway fifteen years ago.

We also made the pleasant acquaintance of scores of other gentlemen and ladies—only a few of whom we can now mention in particular, for want of space. Chief among these was GEN. H. A. PIERCE, who accompanied the excursion over the State, and made one of the pleasantest companions we ever had the pleasure of meeting. By the way, the General is interested in apiculture, and intends to enter more largely into the business next spring. He says that he knows of no place in the world that is so favorable to bee-keeping as Arkansas. It abounds with bloom from early in March till December; bees need never be removed from their summer

stands, and prosper abundantly with but very little attention. He says that if Northern bee-keepers would come down there with their scientific and practical knowledge, they would do vastly more than "astonish the natives." The General introduced us to several other bee-men, and we enjoyed a pleasant chat with them.

In the evening the citizens of Little Rock got up a magnificent complimentary banquet at Concordia Hall, which was decorated with flags on all sides, as well as mottos of welcome. The tables were loaded with delicacies and choice viands, and ornamented with splendid bouquets, provided by the ladies. This was one of the largest and grandest Banquets ever given in that city.

The guests were all Northern men; but a more cordial reception could not be given to them, anywhere in the world. We were especially pleased at the marked demonstrations of the fact that the "late unpleasantness" was over, and that the bone of contention was buried, and that all accepted the situation; and that now a Northerner was as welcome and just as safe there as in any town or city on the continent.

Speeches and toasts followed; we have no room to report them, but will say that the address of welcome was delivered by Gen. R. C. Newton, in an earnest speech. He referred to the button-hole bouquets with which the tables were so beautifully decorated, and which the guests were not slow to appropriate. He then remarked that he was pleased to have eye-witnesses in the State, that the people might be seen as they are; that their manners, habits, etc., might be observed. He wanted the visitors to come often, and come at last to stay. It pleased him to know that we had an opportunity to show the State and the products and the people. The North-west and the Southwest were now just becoming known to each other, and he was glad to see it, and hoped it would be continued. The State had been built up by nature as an invitation for pluck, capital and enterprise, and he would say: Come and see us—come, and bring "Yankee Doodle," and "Live and Die in Dixie."

After the Banquet, the party left for Malvern, where we breakfasted, and then went on to the celebrated Hot Springs, where another ovation occurred. The citizen's committee met the party at the terminus of the Narrow Gauge R. R., over eight miles of which we passed, and escorted us to Hot Springs, where every attention and comfort was afforded us, and in the evening there was a grand reception ball at the Arlington House.

Here invalids come by hundreds to partake of the invigorating qualities of these "waters of life." Hot Springs has about 4,000 inhabitants, and is a lively and fashionable resort. We visited Arkadelphia,

and participated in a barbeque, provided by the citizens, and then took a trip towards Texarkana. The train halted in a cotton field, where pickers were busy gathering the crop. Many of our party left the cars and conversed with the colored pickers, and inspected, for the first time, one of the cotton fields of the South.

We then returned to Little Rock, breakfasted, and then the party divided, at its own pleasure. A portion, as guests of the Memphis and Little Rock Railroad, went eastward to see the country between the Arkansas and Mississippi rivers, and the other part, as guests of the Little Rock and Fort Smith Railroad, went west to visit the Arkansas coal fields, which are being newly developed there; of these fields there are several—chief of which is the celebrated mine of the "Ouita Coal Company." Our friend, Thos. Lafferty, Esq., of Little Rock, being the managing director. He accompanied the excursion, and took the party through the mine.

We "went west," and were treated like a prince. Theo. Hartman, Esq., Gen. Supt. of the Little Rock and Fort Smith Railroad, took charge of the party, and no man could do more to make it pleasant and agreeable. Under the able management of such a superintendent, that Railroad must prosper, and become a power in the land. At every station, the inhabitants were out in numbers, exhibiting the fruits of the soil, and tempting us with choice viands. At one of these stopping-places we saw a cucumber weighing 64 pounds, and measuring 13 by 28 inches; at another, corn 14 feet high; at another, prairie grasses 7 feet high, and wheat and oats of large size; at another, stocks of Japanese peas that had produced 200 bushels to the acre. But space and time would fail us to speak of all we saw: our advice to all seeking good bee-locations, is to go down and see for themselves, and then act on their best convictions.

At Little Rock, the party united, and all flew on the rails of comfort, in elegant palace cars, back to St. Louis, having enjoyed the pleasure of an excursion of five days, loaded with pleasant memories, and freighted with incidents and facts about a country which is destined to become one of the best, most congenial and profitable on this continent.

In the language of another, we would say: "The climate of the State—her immunity from cyclones, grasshoppers and other pests, the regularity of her seasons show the adaptation of the State to agriculture. Then, the advantages offered to manufacturing enterprise is palpable, with such forests and coal fields, and raw material of every variety. The mineral wealth of the State is of such a character, and crops out so plainly, that the learning of the geologist may be almost dispensed with for practical purposes. The State

government, if not all that could be desired, will certainly compare favorably with any other in the Union."

The party passed a vote of thanks to the Railroads, and to COL. LOUGHBOROUGH, the indefatigable and earnest Land Commissioner, as well as to T. B. MILLS & Co. editors of the *Spirit of Arkansas*, at Little Rock, and to many others; but want of space forbids the details. At St. Louis, the party separated and repaired to their respective homes and fields of labor, to tell their readers what they had seen and heard.

Honey Plants.

Questions answered by Prof. C. E. BESSEY, Professor of Botany, at the State Agricultural College, Ames, Iowa.

Herewith find a branch as broken from two kinds of wild weeds upon which my bees are now working, and getting pollen, if not honey. I would like to know the name and honey-producing capacity of them. J. STUART.

Webster Co. Mo., Sept. 15, 1875.

The plant with yellow flower, is a species of golden-rod, probably *solidago canadensis*, although the entire absence of leaves from the specimen renders it somewhat doubtful. It is valuable for honey, as are all the golden-rods.

The violet or purple flowered plant belongs to the general family which includes the mints. It is the common dittany, *canila mariana*. It grows from southern New York, southward and westward. Judging from the value possessed by its relatives, this plant is probably a good honey plant.

You will find enclosed some seed of a weed which the bees work on from the 20th of June, and is in bloom yet; the bees work on it every day. It has a square stalk, hollow in the center and grows from 2 to 4 feet high. The seed and flower are close to the stalk in a bur. Here is a small piece of it, not quite in bloom. I think it yields more honey than catnip.

Port Rowen, Ont.

E. BROWN.

This appears to be motherwort, (*Leonurus cardiaca*) an introduced European plant. It is a relative of catnip and the mints in general. I should like pressed specimens of the whole plant.

Yesterday morning I accidentally found the inclosed plant on the roadside; my attention was called to it, from the fact that it was literally covered with bees. The same was the case on my return in the evening.

I took a sample of it to the house of a bee-keeper, who also observed it for the first time, this summer; he informs me that there is another variety with a *deep purple* bloom, you observe that this is *yellow bloom*, alike productive of both honey and pollen.

WM. S. BARCLAY.

Beaver, Pa., Sept. 25, 1875.

The specimen is a species of golden-rod, and judging from the few small stem leaves which accompanied the flowers, I take it to be the Canadian golden-rod, (*solidago canadensis*). All the golden-rods are valuable honey plants, and might profitably be grown for that purpose. They are so readily killed by plowing, that they are hardly to be considered as dangerous weeds.

The purple flowered plant referred to, is as Mr. Barclay rightly conjectures, a relative of the golden-rod. It is no doubt an astor. All astors are good honey plants.

Enclosed please find six specimens of honey-producing wild flowers: will you please give their names through the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL, and oblige?

No. 1 is a yellow flower; grows about three feet high; is found on the river bottom, and also in most uncultivated spots in fields, etc.

No. 2 grows in similar places; is from 3 to 4½ feet high.

No. 3 is a thick branching plant, from 4 to 6 feet high, with a great abundance of small, white flowers.

These are very fine honey-producing plants; they begin to bloom the first of August, and continue until winter.

No. 4 looks same as No. 3, except that it has blue flowers and less profuse flowering; but grows exclusively on upland.

Nos. 5 and 6 are similar, differing only in form of flower head; are about 2 feet high, and grow almost anywhere.

C. F. LANE.

Rock Co., Wis., Sept. 15, 1875.

No. 1 is a Bur Marigold, or a species of spanish-needle (*Bidens chrysanthemoides*). I do not think it desirable that the bees should work much on this plant: it would give the honey an acrid taste.

No. 2 is sneeze-weed (*Helenium autumnale*). May produce good honey, but it is doubtful.

Nos. 3 and 4 are a species of aster. These two asters are, no doubt, valuable for honey, as Mr. Lane says. In order to determine the particular species of each, more leaves are necessary.

Nos. 5 and 6 are golden-rods (*Solidago*).

The fragments are too small to enable me to identify species. All golden-rods, however, are valuable honey-plants,—so it is not necessary to distinguish between the species.

It makes determination much more easy and certain if a good-sized piece of the plant is sent. The leaves should, in all cases, be present.

Bees here did well in the swarming line. The frost killing our buckwheat cut the honey supply short. I send you two specimens of flowers; would like to know what the names of them are. Bees work lively on No. 1, as it is now blooming nicely. I do not know as they would work on No. 2, it is just coming on. My stock last spring consisted of 57; I now have 118 strong colonies, with hives well filled with honey for winter.

E. J. NEWSOM.

Dunn Co., Wis., Aug 29, 1875.

The specimens are both golden-rods. No. 1 is the large rigid-golden-rod (*Solidago rigida*)—common in Iowa and all the northern States. It is rough, has a stout stem, with quite large heads of flowers, and grows from 2 to 5 feet high.

No. 2 is scarcely determinable on account of not having leaves, but it is probably *Solidago missouriensis*, the Missouri golden-rod. It will probably furnish a good amount of honey.

Always in sending plants for name they should have flower and leaf: this is especially the case with the golden-rods, whose flowers alone are so nearly alike as to render it difficult to identify species.

Particular attention is requested to the advertisement of Geo. H. Byrns, of Pratt's Hollow, New York. He has some bees, honey-boxes and an Extractor for sale cheap, as he is going South. See the advertisement. It should have appeared in the October number, but was overlooked.

Among our callers since the last issue, were: E. Gallop, Osage, Iowa; R. H. Mellen, Amboy, Ill.; and Miss Jennie French. As we were absent from the city on business, we did not see them, but hope they will call again.

We have received the Report of Proceedings of the Kentucky Bee-keepers' Convention. It will appear in our next.

The Other Side of Bee Culture.

Under this heading a writer in the *Western Rural* for Aug. 21st says:

"The outlook for the honey producer is darker to-day than for years past. Put your products where you will, and you meet a competition that drags the market. Take from the market manufactured honey, and all honey that cost the producer double what it is selling for, and there would still remain a surplus."

In complying with a request of several of our subscribers, we wrote the honey dealers for a statement on the market. The following letters are the result, and will fully explain themselves:

MR. T. G. NEWMAN:—In reply to your favor of the 14th inst. would say that honey market in this city is not overstocked by any means—sales a little slow—but as soon as cool weather sets in I expect to sell tons of it. The sale of honey always is dull here in fruit season.

S. H. STEVENS.

St. Louis, Sept. 15, 1875.

DEAR SIR:—In reply to your inquiries, I can only say that the supply of honey in this city seems equal to the demand; at least we have found no trouble in picking up all we have required. The season however, is not yet fairly opened. When people get back from the country and trade revives, the demand for honey, no doubt, will be considerably increased.

JNO. LONG.

New York, Sept. 20, 1875.

DEAR SIR:—The statement in the *Rural* that the market is overstocked, is in part true; but the writer should have stated with what kind of honey the market was overstocked. He evidently means with poor honey; of this sort we have sadly too much, but of good honey there is very little, and if the "outlook be dark" at all, it is on this account. It stands thus, then: Too much bad honey and too little good.

Let good honey be put in market at reasonable prices and the evil will be remedied at once. The necessity for "manufactured honey," so-called, will be at an end when good honey can be bought as reasonably as good sugar.

A. KERNBERGER.

Chicago, Sept. 23, 1875.

MR. NEWMAN:—I have letters from a large number of apiarists, having from 500 to 10,000 lbs of honey to sell, asking what I would pay for it. I have almost invariably requested them to make their own price, stating that as honey seemed to be plentiful, and trade light, prices would probably be low, and I did not care to be responsible for making the price as I had usually done.

Strictly white comb-honey for repacking, will be in good demand with me; and I shall want a few tons of white extracted

sage, bass-wood and clover; but as I have a large stock of dark extracted on hand, from last season, I will probably not want any of that for many months to come. Trade is dull generally, and prices of almost everything lower; a great many things have been over produced, and consequently unsalable at old prices.

I have reduced my retail prices 25 per cent. and even that makes trade very little better.

Mr. R. Miller, of Compton, Ill., was here recently, and in the course of conversation, asked me if I did not think that the numerous reports in the papers about sugar, molasses, glucose, glue, flour, soap, palm oil, clay, lard, sawdust, etc., mixed with honey, and sold for the pure article was not recoiling on the producers. I told him, it certainly was; and, if they continued, they would turn everybody's stomach against honey.

I am often asked how I manage to get the wax molded, and honey put into the cells and sealed over as nice as the bees do it. I tell them they give me too much credit.

There are not many honey producers who understand the relation we bear to each other. The true relation is, they are the producers and I am simply their agent to gather it in and hold it for months, and sometimes for years, (however, my money is in it—not theirs,) and distribute it as it is needed all over the world, as my trade extends.

Not many producers or consumers understand that I am placed between two fires. Producers say, because I do not buy all their honey, I must adulterate it, mix it, add to it, or make an imitation of honey—and the consumers say: You sell so much honey, that of course it is not all honey, there cannot be so many car loads of honey raised in the world. I answer to the one that I buy all the honey I can sell, even many times without a profit; and, to the other, that I do not buy one-tenth of the honey that is offered, in many instances having given instructions how to pack and peddle it in their own towns. (Now don't everybody write me at once.)

Some producers say they must have 12½ others 20 cents per lb. for their extracted honey, while I hear that Mr. Crowfoot peddles his honey in Milwaukee at 11c. per lb. I am glad that he has found sale for it. I have bought several lots of extracted honey lately at 8c. per lb.

I should be glad to sell all the extracted honey I could buy at 12c. per lb. in barrels.

There seems to be a great misunderstanding between honey dealers and the producers, and it has been caused largely by producers thinking we made too much money in the business. Let the apiarist step forward who can show a record of as

much hard work as I can in the past ten years, in the interest of bee-keeping. If it was not for him who feeds the honey to the public direct, what would your papers, your hives, your queens and bees all be worth? I have labored 16 to 20 hours a day the greater part of the time since I have been in the business. I have searched out in all our cities everybody that I could sell a pound of honey to, and three-fourths on credit too, in sums of 25c. to \$2. trusting almost indiscriminately everybody who would buy, and had standing out at times, after my business was enlarged, in several cities, in these small sums, to people I never saw, \$5,000 to \$6,000, of which I usually lose from 2 to 10 per cent. I have given away tons of honey for people to try that I never received a cent for.

For many years I have worked for glory, although I always made money; but after learning that my efforts were not appreciated, I only worked for the dollar.

I have been largely engaged in manufacturing maple syrup from the sugar, the past few years, which has outgrown the honey interest, and I may at some time ask apiarists to relieve me entirely of that interest. The maple sugar producers seem to be a rather more pleasant people to get along with generally, although I should pay a tribute of respect to my many friends among apiarists.

C. O. PERRINE.

Chicago, Ill., Oct. 19, 1875.

For the American Bee Journal.

Honey.

That there is no accounting for tastes is an old saying, and to a considerable extent it is true; but our individual tastes and preferences are largely a matter of education.

I live in a region abounding with white clover, and nearly all the surplus honey we get is gathered from the blossoms of that plant. The few linden trees that bloom are not sufficient to materially alter the flavor of the clover-honey. In consequence of this, we have a demand in our markets for only choice qualities of honey. In consequence of the short crop this year, I purchased some bass-wood honey from Michigan, and my customers complained of the taste of bee-bread in their honey. They were ignorant of the flavor of bass-wood and mistook it for bee-bread. Many of them would hear my explanation, and then say, with a knowing shake of the head: "Ah! I know *bee bread* when I taste it."

A friend from the mountainous region east of us remarked to me lately: "Yes, white clover furnishes very pretty honey, but nothing tastes to me like *honey* except that from the poplar bloom."

I was lately at the business house of friend Muth, in Cincinnati, and though

short of clerks that day, and besieged on every side with customers, he took time to show me over his large establishment, and to have a little bee-talk. We went to the honey-cellar, and sampled numerous casks of honey, with a view to compare qualities. "This," said Mr. M., drawing the bung from a cask, "came from a friend in Michigan. He wrote when it was shipped that if I ever saw, smelled or tasted better honey, he would not charge a cent for it. He called it white clover. Try it." Upon tasting, it proved to be what would pass in our market for medium second quality. There was in the cellar honey from the North, the South, and the West as far as California. Honey from that State was very thick, almost as clear as water, and of a high spicy flavor, somewhat resembling that from peach and apple blossoms. Honey from Louisiana was rather dark and of a strong flavor. Bass-wood honey, from the Northern States, was very light-colored and already (September) partially candied.

Mr. Muth reports honey-crop very short, no strictly first quality of this year's crop seen, and no comb-honey on the market; though he was expecting some in September.

From the honey-cellar we went to the warehouse, where bee-hives and honey-jars were stored in quantity. A car-load of honey-jars had just come in from the factory, and were piled up near the warehouse. The nicest straw mats for winter covering that I have yet seen were piled up near-by. I have been using quilts, but hereafter shall make only straw mats to cover my bees; and I shall try a few hives with eight combs and a smaller mat on each side next the wood, in place of the comb. I use Langstroth hives.

I was much interested in Mr. Muth's account of two cases of foul-brood that had occurred in his apiary. He confessed that he was very much alarmed when it was discovered, but by prompt treatment, he had conquered it, and that danger was over. The bees were changed to empty combs and the old combs melted and hives burned. After thirty-six hours the bees were again changed to clean combs and fed sugar syrup for wintering. Mr. M. can show as fine Italians as one would wish to see. He cultivates them exclusively, but can relate a little experience with Egyptian bees of his own importation. As fighters, they were a decided success, but they did not conquer friend Muth; for he routed them, "horse, foot and dragoons." That is to say: Kings, queens and guards. This was necessary for the safety of himself and friends.

September, 1875.

W. C. P.

Any numbers that fail to reach subscribers by fault of mail, we are at all times ready to re-send, on application, free of charge.

BEE KEEPING IN 1875.

UNIVERSAL REPORTS CONTINUED.

DEAR BEE JOURNAL.—According to request in your last issue, we answer:

1. Bees usually commence storing honey in this locality from the 15th of April to the 1st of June, but an unprecedentedly late frost last spring destroyed all the fruit and other early bloom and no honey was gathered until the first of June, at which time they commenced operations quite vigorously, and continued for about thirty days filling the hives and storing up considerable surplus in caps. Many swarms issued during the month of June, but it commenced raining here about the first of July, and continued for about forty days, during which time no honey whatever was stored, consequently many of the young swarms starved out and died, and those that survived were almost destitute. The wet weather produced a good crop of smart-weed, and bees have, within the last two or three days, commenced gathering honey almost as rapidly as at any time during the season; and the young swarms being quite flush with bees and comb may yet store a sufficiency for winter use. If, however, they should secure only a partial supply, a few pounds of honey or sugar fed them will enable them to winter successfully. If, after the honey season closes, they are found to be short, some of the weaker hives might be destroyed, and the proceeds turned over to the stronger ones; this process, though a little barbarous, we think a better plan than to let all perish.

2. The prospect for honey the balance of the season is very good, early frost excepted.

3. The three best honey-producers, with us, are: white clover, poplar and linn, though we have quite a variety of other weeds and plants that produce more or less honey. Smart-weed taking the lead.

4. Poplar, from 1st to 15th of April, generally,—this year from 1st to 15th of June; white clover, from 15th of April to 1st of June; linn, from 25th of June to 10th of July.

J. W. FINNELL.

Madison Co., Ky., Sept. 6, 1875.

DEAR JOURNAL:—I commenced the winter of 1874, with sixty-four swarms, and lost in winter fifteen swarms leaving forty-nine. Five of these were very weak. I did nothing but build up during the season, leaving forty-four, in good healthy condition, though not strong, in bees. I have twenty-two new swarms, making sixty-six in all. I have taken 2,400 lbs of cup honey, and my hives are now well stored with both bees and honey. I do not consider the season a good one; it has been too cold or dry.

We consider the honey harvest for this season now over.

Our fall flowers produce but little honey, and bees seldom gather any after this season of the year more than they use.

Our principal sources for honey are fruit blossoms, white clover and linden. White clover comes into bloom about the middle of May, and continues about six weeks. From bass-wood or linden we get our greatest amount of surplus. It blooms from the middle of July until the first of August, or from fifteen to twenty days. Large amounts of honey are gathered from it. I have known ten pounds of honey to be gathered in one day from it.

H. ROOR.

Onondaga Co., N. Y., Sept. 6, 1875.

My success this season in honey and swarms, is as follows:

I commenced the season with forty stocks in the Langstroth hives. I have taken 1600 lbs, up to date, of box honey. I have had but one swarm. The honey season is about over here. We have but few fall flowers, as there is but little buckwheat sown here. In the spring we have abundance of fruit blossoms. Then comes white clover and bass-wood. But clover is our main pasturage. Bees have swarmed but little in this section this season, and there is a good deal of complaint of a short honey crop. NELSON TENNY.

Monroe Co., N. Y., Sept. 15, 1875.

DEAR BEE JOURNAL:—In answer to your questions I would report as follows:

1. good for swarms, but too wet for honey; about medium for surplus.

2. Balance of season till Oct. 10th, bees will gather about as much as they consume from golden-rod (*Solidago Ulmifolia*) and aster.

3. Difficult to answer, as seasons vary. The best is always white clover; then, as a general thing, dandelion, in spring, and buckwheat for late summer.

4. Dandelion commences in May, 1 to 10, and continues about three weeks. White clover the latter part of May (this year June 10), and continues from four to nine weeks, according to weather. Buckwheat, Aug. 1, about four weeks.

H. H. FLICK.

Somerset Co., Pa., Sept. 9, 1875.

DEAR SIR:—I commenced this spring with eighteen hives, very weak; I lost four or five queens by death or desertion. The April spell of winter we had, killed all blossoms in this part of the State, yet my bees never did so well. I raised my own queens, pure Italian. I extracted over 400 lbs of honey; will take off twenty boxes of honey, which will average 30 lbs to the box; and a hive about 600 lbs, in all about 1,000 lbs. My bees increased to 54. I

stopped dividing on the first of July, but the bees had no notion of quitting, so I had twelve natural swarms, afterwards; the last two came off August 22, and they have done well for the time; the boxes are one-half full. The season was very good up to date, but now it is very dry, and bees are doing nothing; prospects ahead not good.

Our three best honey plants are white clover, linn and buckwheat. We have also the poplar, locust, wild cherry, chestnut, and all kinds of fruit. Clover commences to bloom the second week in June, and continues three or four weeks. Linn commences the first week in July, and remains three or four weeks in bloom. Buckwheat commences the second week in August, and is also in bloom three or four weeks. I might also say we have a host of honey-producing weeds in the fall that the bees do quite a business on.

WILLIAM REYNOLDS.

Westmoreland Co., Pa., Sept. 9, 1875.

MR. NEWMAN:—I had twenty swarms last spring; one-fourth of them were very weak. I have taken from them up to-day 363 lbs. of box honey in small glass boxes, and six natural swarms.

The season is over now.

The best three honey plants: dandelion, white clover and linden. They begin to yield honey about the first of June, and continue through July and about a week in August. We get no honey here after the first week in August.

I have kept bees twelve years. I winter my bees in the cellar under the room in which we live. The thermometer averages 40; and never freezes. I never lost but three or four swarms in the winter.

I have never made an artificial swarm, or used the Extractor.

C. J. WARE.

Orleans Co., Vt., Sept 10, 1875.

I started last spring with five stands of bees; three in good condition; two weakened by dysentery. I increased to eighteen stands, putting two small swarms together. All natural swarms. The first part of the season was too cold and wet for much honey. We have had our best honey season during the past three weeks. I have taken 500 lbs., all in small caps, and have 100 lbs. on the hives. I have not used the extractor.

The prospect is good for the balance of this month if it keeps warm.

Bass-wood and buckwheat have been our best; now they are working on late buckwheat, boneset and golden-rod.

My bees are black. I introduced two Italian queens to my stock a short time ago. I use the Langstroth hive.

R. A. CALVIN.

Berrien Co., Mich., Sept. 7, 1875.

I began the season with fifty-six stocks; have increased to eighty-four; and have got about 3,000 lbs of box honey; the largest portion was obtained from bass-wood.

The prospect for the balance of the season is rather poor. We had a frost about the 20th of August that killed most of the buckwheat, and the weather is very unfavorable for gathering honey from the flowers that are not killed. The best three plants for honey in this location are white clover, bass-wood and aster.

White clover generally begins to yield honey from the first to the middle of June, and lasts from four to six weeks; bass-wood generally begins to yield honey from the first to the tenth of July, and lasts from ten to fifteen days, sometimes a little longer, which was the case this year. The aster begins about the last of August or first of September, and lasts from three to four weeks.

W. H. TENANT.

Winnebago Co., Wis., Sept. 4, 1875.

Out of forty-three stands of bees put into winter quarters, I succeeded in wintering and "springing" twenty-eight. Ten of these I used for rearing queens, leaving eighteen for gathering honey and increase. The season was very unfavorable until about August 5th. My best stands only gathering enough until that date to keep from starving. My weakest swarms I had to feed. During the summer I increased them to thirty-six swarms, and began to use the extractor, August 10. Honey harvest lasted but thirty days, during which time I extracted 4,200 lbs. of extra nice honey, besides leaving them plenty for winter. The original stock of eighteen stands averaged 233½ lbs. each, besides making about 100 square feet of comb.

The best honey plant for this season was smart-weed, then Spanish-needle and a dozen other good plants. Smart-weed commenced blooming about Aug. 1st; Spanish-needle Aug. 25th; both continued in bloom throughout the remainder of the season.

As a general thing Spanish-needle is our main dependence for surplus honey. Some years linn and buckwheat play an important part as honey-producers.

My bees are Italian. I received my imported queen from Chas. Dadant & Son. Her worker progeny are not the fancy, light colored variety which some so much admire, but, O my! don't they bring in the honey though; and that's what we are after.

M. E. McMASTER.

Shelby Co., Mo., Oct. 11, 1875.

I commenced this spring with four stands of bees in fair condition—three Italian and one hybrid.

In the latter part of April, I started a nucleus hive, from which I raised ten very fine queens. On May 7th, I divided all my

stocks, and built up my nucleus to the standard of a strong swarm. They all accepted the situation without a murmur, and went to work to my entire satisfaction. I expected to get a fine yield of surplus honey, but after examining them twice a week, through June and July, I found at no time, more than one day's provision ahead, but always plenty of brood. During the long wet spell, I had to feed them to keep them from starving. About that time my surplus honey bubble "busted," and I agreed with them, that if they would lay up enough to keep them through the winter, I would furnish them with good shelter, and would go in partnership with them on the surplus honey question next spring. They agreed to the proposition, at least they worked on cheerfully, and I left them to their own devices, until the 29th of August. When I came home from camp-meeting, the boys told me I had another swarm of bees. The same queen that successfully led off a swarm on the 12th of August, 1874, concluded to try it again this year; and now after 12 days they have made over six square feet of comb, and that well filled with brood and honey, and I have no fears but they will make all the necessary provisions for winter. When that swarm came out, I concluded I had enough bees, and started through my hives to break up the swarming business, and to my surprise I found them well filled with honey. I got out my extractor, and took away over 150 lbs, leaving perhaps as much more in the hives, and if the weather continues favorable throughout this month and half of next, I shall get at least 300 lbs of frame and box honey; about half that amount is already stored in the second stories of my hives,—the Quinby two story hives, with movable sides, which are very convenient in taking out the frames. They are of my own make, and being a carpenter I can say the hives will pass.

The three best honey-producing plants in this vicinity are white clover, catnip and buckwheat. White clover and catnip last nearly all summer; buckwheat about two weeks. We have numerous other honey-producing plants, but no lindens.

J. BALSLEY.

Wayne Co., Sept. 10, 1875.

MR. EDITORS.—I commenced the spring of 1875 with one colony in good condition, and two nuclei. I have increased by artificial swarming to 12 strong colonies. I use a two story "simplicity hive" with "standard L. frame." I have 10 colonies full above and below. I raised all my queens, and the bees have built all their comb.

I have extracted about 130 lbs. From the present prospects I think I will average 40 or 50 lbs this fall. Bees began to gather honey rapidly by April 20, which continued till about July 1st. Italians

continued to breed well and increase their stores a little during July and August. Blacks gathered enough to live on, but weakened considerably during those two months.

I kept two colonies of blacks to test the merits of the two breeds, but I found they cost too much, and have just Italianized them. I let my neighbors have several full frames of brood to raise queens from, and I have killed four queens that I did not like after testing them, thus involving loss of time.

I have been living here five years, and there has not been a year during the time, but large yields of honey could have been obtained with proper management.

T. W. JOHNSON.

Lee Co., Miss., Sept. 9, 1875.

Bees in this section came out of winter quarters in good condition, but most of them were set out too early for such a cold spring as our last. I began to set mine out May 4th and finished on the 8th, all but one in fine condition, and that was destroyed by mice. The whole number placed in my cellar, Nov. 15th, was 82. On June 1st, they were not in as good condition as when set out, while those set out a month earlier dwindled down to the young that were unable to fly, and not many of them.

I got a little over 2,500 lbs of box honey, in five lb boxes.

Bees commence storing about June 15th, and cease about July 25th. I had but 23 new swarms this year. The greatest amount from one swarm was 31 boxes, or 164¼ lbs. Same swarm last year made 172 lbs.

Our honey season is confined to briar, clover and bass-wood. This season the forest worm destroyed nearly all the buds of bass-wood, so that but few of them ever came into bloom; this shortened our crop of honey nearly one-half. My bees are Italians and hybrids. IRA BARBER.

St. Lawrence Co., N. Y., Sept. 12, 1875.

I have a cellar that keeps a temperature varying from 35 to 45 degrees. I put thirty-six skips in the cellar on Dec. 1st. In March, all but one were in fine condition, that one I let fall down the steps. I set them on their stands about April 1st, in good order; bought seven skips more; lost eight out of the whole, leaving thirty-four, many of them quite weak.

On the twenty-eighth of June, they began to swarm; have sixty skips in all from swarming and dividing. I put all second swarms back; twelve swarms had no increase. One hive I adjusted to admit of forty surplus frames; it has given me *two hundred pounds* of honey in surplus frames; I do not extract any honey; I have about one ton of honey in surplus frames; the honey season has not been an average one.

My colonies are strong in bees and honey; the honey season is over.

The best honey plants are bass-wood, chestnut, and white and red clover; the raspberry is equal to the best; honey sells for 15 cents for dark, 20 cents for white. The bees have gathered great quantities of pollen this fall.

JAMES MARKLE.

Albany Co., N. Y., Sept. 10, 1875.

Three-fourths of my bees of last year were lost in wintering, occasioned by being too weak in bees and supplies, and wintering in an outdoor repository, banked on the sides with earth and sawdust, and covered with boards and straw. During the severe winter, the bees were much of the time surrounded by frost. They would, I think, have been better off in the open air; I commenced this season with the remnant—only six feeble swarms. These have built up strong, but have afforded no increase, and but little extracted honey. I obtained three new swarms of a neighboring bee-keeper, by exchanging old comb,—giving two hives of comb for one of bees. These I have increased artificially, by giving the old comb to six strong swarms, I have extracted from them about 150 lbs of honey.

The three best honey plants in this region are, white clover, bass-wood, and weeds on the Mississippi bottoms. White clover commenced about the middle of June, and continued in bloom three or four weeks. Bass-wood commenced a little before the middle of July and continued about two weeks, not furnishing as much honey this year as usual. The bottom weeds commenced to bloom about the 20th of July and have continued until the present time furnishing honey in great abundance. One of these weeds grows from four to five feet high, blossoms in large clusters, purple in color, with white pollen. The other resembles Gray's description of golden-rod,—grows about two feet high,—yellow blossoms radiated at the base—center large and cone-like. There are near here hundreds if not thousands of acres of these blossoms, furnishing excellent fall pasturage for bees.

One veteran bee-keeper in this vicinity has seventy-five swarms. Has extracted this season over a ton of honey. He lost during last winter less than five per cent. Winters in a warm, dry cellar, with caps filled with straw and no upward ventilation. His bees came out with clean comb very strong.

Another intelligent bee-keeper within three miles, has about a hundred swarms. He discards the extractor. Is laying aside frames, and going back fifty years to a plain box hive, with an arrangement for boxes in the top,—planning only for box honey, and he succeeds finely.

SIGMA.

Dakota Co., Minn., Sept. 21, 1875.

I commenced with 19 colonies. Had twelve natural increase, and nine artificial.

I took 400 lbs extracted honey. Principal source of honey: fruit blossoms, white clover and buckwheat

C. C. MILLER.

McHenry Co., Ills., Sept. 24, 1875.

I began the season with twenty-two stocks of Italian bees, having lost eighteen during the winter and spring. The most of my stocks were very weak. The fruit blossoms were nearly all killed, and the bees got a very late start. They did well, however, while the black gum and poplar were in blossom, and stored some honey. The wet weather set in the first week in June, and from that time until the middle of August, they did not gather more than enough to supply their own needs. In fact in some of the hives not enough. I have increased by artificial swarming to thirty-five full colonies, and two nuclei, and have taken thirty-three lbs of extracted honey. For the last two weeks my bees have been gathering honey very fast, principally from buckwheat and several varieties of *polygonum*, the species to which the common smart-weed belongs. The prospect now is that they will store enough to winter on and some to spare.

I am at a loss to determine what answer to make to the question, "which are the best three honey plants in this section of country?" White clover, no doubt, stands first in importance, and yet some seasons it yields very little honey. This year it was almost worthless. I am inclined to place black-gum and poplar (tulip tree) as the next two in importance. We have so little bass-wood, or linn, in this neighborhood that it is not worth mentioning. The black-gum blooms in May. I am not able to give the precise time, and remains in bloom about ten days, perhaps a little more. The poplar comes in about the time the black-gum is done, and continues about two weeks. White clover begins to bloom in May and continues through June, and sometimes well into July, according to the season.

M. MAHIN.

Henry Co., Ind., Aug. 4, 1875.

DEAR EDITOR:—This is my first year in the business. I reside in the central part of the city. Started last spring with two good stocks of common bees; increased now to five. The spring was very wet, cold and backward, and but very little honey was gathered till about the 1st of July, when the white clover came, the weather being favorable, it lasted almost six weeks, during which time, when it did not rain, the flow of honey was very abundant and had my bees been in good shape I might have had at least two hundred pounds of box honey. One stock is strong and has yielded fifty lbs of nice box honey. Three others are now quite

strong, but have given me only about twenty lbs of honey from all. The fifth wants nursing yet. My text-book is Langstroth as well as my hive, and I am a great admirer of both.

There is still a good deal of honey apparently, and *if* it does not rain too much, and *if* frost does not come too early, our bees will get their share of it.

I can only speak of white clover with certainty as a honey-producing plant, though there must be others. There is now a good deal of golden-rod in bloom, but clover is our main reliance.

On the whole I am gratified with my success, and look forward with pleasure to a resumption of the work, that is *if* my bees winter well. MRS. C. E. CRAIN.

Milwaukee, Wis., Sept. 6, 1875.

1st. I commenced this spring with 40 stands of bees, rather weak, being badly damaged last fall by taking them to the mountains, some ten to twelve miles east from Orange. I commenced extracting about the 15th of May, and to Sept. 15th, I have taken six thousand pounds. I have increased them to over eighty stands. I will still have to extract and divide them, as they are strong with bees and honey. I have sold no honey for less than ten cts. in gold, and don't intend to. I love the mountains and bee-culture.

2d. Not much more extracting, although during the balance of the season they gather honey and pollen whenever the sun shines.

3d. The three best honey plants in my location is the black button sage, the white sage, and the sumac.

4th. They begin to yield honey about the middle of May, and continue about three months. ROBERT HALL.

Los Angeles Co., Cal., Sept. 8, 1875.

I wintered 31 stocks of bees last winter, mostly in good condition; about half Italians. The spring was cold and they did but little till late in May. I extracted about 700 pounds of red raspberry honey in June; got a small quantity of bass-wood honey. They have gathered some for about one week to this date, Sept. 4. I have taken about 1900 lbs. and have 83 strong stocks; the prospect for the balance of the season is good. My bees raised more brood this year than I ever knew before; they are all Italians and hybrids. Our best honey-plants, aside from linn, is golden-rod, wild aster, and boneset. They all begin to yield honey about the 20th of August and last till frosts destroy them, which is generally about the last of September. Last winter was very hard on bees in this vicinity, nearly all died except mine. I lost ten out of 59; then sold all but 31.

IRA J. ANDREWS.

Gratiot Co., Mich., Sept. 4, 1875.

We had 61 swarms, all Italians, to commence with in the spring. We only extracted 1200 lbs. It was a very poor season for honey here. It rained almost every day through the honey-season. We now have ninety-one swarms, and sold two. The weather has been very good for bees during the past two weeks. We think they have a plenty to winter on, if it continues, and we may have some to extract. They are working on buckwheat and thoroughwort at present.

As to the best honey-plants, Alsike clover and Rocky Mountain bee-plant are the best two, and catnip the next. I think the wet season favorable for white clover, as it is so plenty, and we may expect a good honey-season next year. Your JOURNAL, I could not do without; if I only had two swarms, I would not be without it. We take three, and read them all. MRS. A. A. RICE.

Medina Co., O., Sept. 10, 1875.

In answer to your questions in September number:

1st. Good.

2d. Good.

3d. and 4th. That I am a beginner in bee-keeping, and cannot answer intelligently; white clover is our main dependence. We have a large quantity of red raspberry, some bass-wood, buckwheat, boneset, golden-rod, and fruit blossoms. Every other year this is considered a good section of country for bees.

CHAS. OLIVER.

Crawford Co., Pa., Sept. 6, 1875.

We have not had much of a honey-season, here in Maine. It has been cold and wet. We generally have our best honey-season in August and September, but this year we have no honey to mention. My bees did little or nothing on golden-rod. It has been so cold that we had quite a frost on the 11th of September, and since that, bees have flown but little. I had three stocks to start with in the spring. Have had five natural swarms and made one artificial, and given them an Italian queen; introduced by Mrs. Tupper's method, with perfect success, and now have a fine stock of Italians. I have at this date nine good stocks; am hopeful to be able to winter and spring them in good shape, and take some honey next season. I have only taken about 25 lbs. this season. I hope to do a good deal better next year. S. H. HUTCHINSON.

Mechanic Falls, Me., Oct. 11, 1875.

I have taken an average of 75 lbs. of extracted honey from my stocks. If I had run my bees for honey exclusively, I could have taken 125 lbs. per colony. My increase is at the rate of three for each one I had in the spring. I have as many as six from one (partly natural and

partly artificial). The honey season is over with us.

2. Bees have not gathered any honey since the 20th, when we had considerable frost. There is a plenty of heart's-ease in bloom yet, but it is too cold for the secretion of honey, and the little workers, with bountiful supplies, seem to be enjoying a season of rest.

3. Bass-wood, sumach, and heart's-ease, or smart-weed.

4. Bass-wood and sumach commence to yield honey about the 20th of June and usually continue about two weeks; smart-weed begins about the 15th of August and continues until frost.

L. G. PURVIS.

Fremont Co., Iowa, Sept. 25, 1875.

I commenced the spring with seven swarms, two of them light, from which I got no increase, and five wintered in cellar, fair, average swarms, from which I have an increase of 11 good swarms, making 18 in all. I shall get about 300 lbs. of box honey.

My bees have not stored any honey in boxes since about August 10th, on account of cold and wet weather.

White clover, bass-wood and buckwheat. White clover and bass-wood begin to bloom about June 10th; buckwheat about the first of August, and remains in bloom until frost, which came this year on the 22d of August.

O. C. BLANCHARD.

Sauk Co., Wis., Sept. 13, 1875.

I took sixteen hives out of cellar last spring in good condition. The season being cold, they made no honey until the latter part of August; then they increased in numbers and were strong when honey harvest came. Have increased to twenty-three. Extracted 350 lbs., and I think I can take out 350 lbs of nice comb honey, made in frames, and have plenty to winter on. What they have done was done in about eighteen days, in the latter part of August and first of September, from smart-weed and spanish-needle. They got no good of white clover on account of constant rains.

The above named plants, I think, are the best honey-producing plants in this locality.

Heretofore, I have only been keeping bees for the novelty of it, and honey for table use, but now I find, where intelligently and judiciously managed, it would be a profitable business, consequently, I think of increasing the stock. My hives are $18\frac{1}{2} \times 18\frac{1}{2}$, 12 in depth. I use no boxes or honey-boards. I winter in a dry, well-ventilated cellar, under my dwelling-house. I have wintered from eight to eighteen stocks from nucleuses up, for four years, and lost but one, and that was from some oversight, as it had not enough

honey. I buy my queens from A. Salisbury, of Camargo, and have never been disappointed in getting what I pay for. I buy pure Italians from imported mothers.

By the way, Mr. Salisbury, years ago, learned the secret of wintering bees. When a man can for years put into winter quarters from 150 to 200 stocks of all sizes from nucleuses up to the largest standard hives, and take out the same number in good condition, all can see the great contrast between that and the usual wail that comes from Maine to Kansas, over the loss of their pets.

R. E. CARMACH.

Douglas Co., Ill., Sept. 22, 1875.

Answers to questions in the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL of Sept.:

I. Have taken with the extractor an average of twenty pounds per hive, mostly in July. Had to feed nearly all through August and into September to keep up brood rearing. Sometimes during August they seemed to gather almost nothing, again they did better, but not enough to supply the brood. We fed on sugar syrup in the middle of the day, in the open yard, about $1\frac{1}{2}$ gallons per day to twenty colonies. The bees seemed to expect it regularly, took it with the greediness of pigs, and then quieted down in a very few minutes; no fighting, no robbing. The swarming season was very late this year. Sometimes they begin in April, but this year they did not begin till near the end of June. We made an average of one from two.

II. The prospect for the balance of the season seems to be good. The autumn gathering is now (Sept. 16) fairly commenced. The hives are filling up gradually. The bees are working busily on buckwheat, golden-rod, iron-weed, smart-weed, rag-weed, boneset, etc., are coming into bloom.

III. The best three honey-plants, are 1st, poplar, or tulip; blooms in May, from the 1st to the 15th or 20th—owing to the season. No bloom this year: killed by late frosts. 2d. White clover not over abundant—blooms from June 1st to 20th, and sometimes again sparingly in Sept. 3d. Sour-wood; blooms about July 1st to 20th. This latter gave us our surplus the current year, being abundant, and yields a most delicious variety of pure, transparent honey.

A. E. KITCHEN.

Guilford Co., N. C., Sept. 16, 1875.

1st. Extracted honey, 1247 lbs., but very little box honey. I have fifty-three stocks, besides nuclei.

2d. Good till frost. Forty-five or fifty gallons per week. The season will probably last two or three weeks.

3d. White clover, linn and spanish-needle; linn begins to bloom about July 7th, and lasts about ten days; spanish-

needle begins the last part of August and lasts till frost; smart-weed has given some surplus this fall. ANDERSON YORK.

Davis Co., Iowa, Sept. 7, 1875.

I put eleven colonies of blacks and hybrids into winter quarters, by making a box for each hive, of boards, coming within six inches of touching the hive all round, except in front, which I left open to the south-east. The spaces between the sides and hive I filled tightly with dry leaves, about Nov. 10; and covered it over to keep dry, giving no upward ventilation. I use the two-story Langstroth hive. I did not lose a single colony, and but few bees. In the spring I fed but little, as they had plenty of honey. For pollen, I gave them rye and wheat flour. They gathered honey quite fast from the peach and maple bloom (April 1st,) and nearly filled their surplus boxes. On April 17th a frost killed the bloom, and ended their gathering honey. My first swarm came on April 24th, while it was yet cold. I had to feed all until white clover came. Then they began to swarm again. June 1st, I extracted 75 lbs of honey, but the bees never filled the frames again. Usually there is but little to be gathered in July and August. For 15 days from Aug. 7th, I fed each hive $\frac{1}{4}$ lb to stimulate them for the fall crop, if there should be any. Aug. 22d I had two swarms, and would have had more but I prevented it by cutting out the queen cells.

We have a plenty of aster, golden-rod, and fall flowers, but it is too dry. If the bees do not get enough to winter on, I shall feed them sugar syrup. This I prepare by mixing equal parts of "Coffee A," sugar and water. When it boils add a teaspoonful of salt to every 8 lbs of syrup, and skim it.

I expect to prepare my bees for winter as for several years past, on their summer stands.

The three best honey-plants are: white clover, (May 10th to June 10th); poplar, (May 1st to June 1st); aster, (Sept. 12th to Oct. 10th).

HENRY W. ROOP.

Nashville, Tenn., Sept. 5, 1875.

EDITOR JOURNAL:—According to your request, I send you an account of what my apiary has done this season up to date.

1st. I have averaged eighty-five pounds extracted and comb honey per hive, for the old stocks I had in the spring. Increase in swarms one and one-third swarms to the old ones.

2d. For the balance of the season poor prospect. It has been raining and cold for the last weeks.

3d. The three best honey-plants are: White clover, bass-wood, golden-rod. White clover from the 10th of June to the 15th of July; bass-wood from the 8th of

July to the 20th; golden-rod from the 15th of August to last of September. That is about the time they generally bloom.

A. S. WILLIAMS.

Laporte Co., Ind., Sept. 21, 1875.

MR. NEWMAN:—It was rather wet this season for honey, but the bees are all heavy and prepared for winter. I took about 1000 lbs of box honey. Our best honey-plants and trees are: poplar, bass, buckwheat, and golden-rod. This is the place for bee-keepers, as bees need no winter protection. I do not half attend to mine, as I should, and they pay me 33 per cent. My fruit farm keeps me busy. To any one wishing to locate in a mild climate, and wanting any information in reference to the country, I will cheerfully give it. No grasshoppers here to eat up the crops.

A. F. HORNE.

Madison Co., Tenn., Oct. 12, 1875.

I had twelve colonies in the spring, which were in the eight-frame American hive; now I have 21 colonies, and the new colonies are all much larger than the old; the new hives have 10 frames, $14\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2}$. One of these colonies will almost make two of the old ones—making a pretty fair increase. I have about 50 lbs. of box-honey. We had too much rain the fore-part of the season. This decreased my box-honey by about 100 lbs. White clover has been about our best honey-plant this season. It lasted from the first of June till the 15th of August. Buckwheat and corn fields were our next. They lasted from about the 1st of August to the 10th of September. Red clover comes next; it lasts from about the 15th of June to the 1st of October. We have any amount of golden-rod here, but the bees do not like it.

In my article in No. 9 (Sept.), in the 6th line from the top, for 32, read *twelve*.

D. H. OGDEN.

Wayne Co., O., Sept. 8, 1875.

After "springing time" was over, we were left with 32 colonies, and from them we report as follows: 56 strong colonies at present.

Aug. 5 extracted	9%	gallons.
Aug. 12 and 13 extracted.....	60	"
Aug. 19 and 20	52	"
Aug. 26 and 27	75%	"
Sept. 3 and 4	76	"
Sept. 10 and 11	94%	"
Sept. 17 to 21	106	"

473% gallons.

We think we have left them stores enough to winter on safely. The best bee plants here are sumac, smart-weed, spanish-needle and buckwheat. As yet the white clover is not here enough to count on.

Mrs. S. DICK.

Benton Co., Mo., Oct. 13, 1875.

I had 19 swarms in the spring,—one queenless and several quite weak; have increased to 60, and all strong enough to cover 8 and 12 frames; have obtained about 400 lbs. box honey and 300 lbs. of extracted.

2d. Frosts and cold weather will prevent getting any more honey this season.

3d. The best three plants are: white clover, linden and buckwheat.

4th. White clover commences about June 1st. to 15th, and usually continues until July 15th; second crop in Aug. and Sept., not profuse. Linden, July 15th, continues about two weeks. Buckwheat August 1st, profuse until Sept. 1st.

We have millions of golden-rod, blue-thistle, motherwort, etc., which help to fill up intervals. Our honey this season is from white clover and buckwheat. Nothing from linden. J. H. MARTIN.

Washington Co., N. Y., Sept 20, 1875.

We set out 23 colonies from cellar in not very good condition, owing to a hard winter and scarcity of honey last fall. I fed them on rye meal, but they seemed too feeble and cold to get out much. As soon as the willow began to blossom, they began to increase and gather honey and pollen, and I never saw bees do better. They stored honey from soft maple, poplar and fruit-flowers, until bass-wood came and we had plenty of that, and afterwards came buckwheat, catnip, balm, and other honey-producers, but an early frost put an end to their joy in a great measure.

Owing to poor health, I was not able to secure as much honey as I might otherwise have done, but I am sure they have enough for wintering, and I fear too much for their own good. We took about 1000 lbs. extracted and comb honey.

We have a good location for an apiary, being on the banks of the Turkey river. Our bees have access to timber and prairie. Mrs. S. A. HILL.

Fayette Co., Iowa, Oct. 1, 1875.

MR EDITOR:—In answer to your questions, please let me say, that I had 60 colonies early in the spring, which increased to 85 by June 20. By Aug. 15th they began to gather honey very fast, and by Sept. 15th they had filled their hives and went to work in the caps, which contain 10 frames, 10x14 each.

Prospect is good, as caps are now nearly filled, and they will continue to work till frost.

Our best honey-plants are bass-wood and two kinds of weeds that are plentiful in these bottoms, but I do not know their names. The honey from them is very superior in quality. I have been in Texas and other southern states, and as far north as Michigan, but I would not exchange locations for any other—even California.

Italians are the most gentle, and best breeders, but for profit give me hybrids, and I have tried them in Italy, Brazil, Spain and Portugal, as well as in this country. JOSEPH M. TELLER.

Cass Co., Sept. 5, 1875.

Below please find my success up to date.

1st. My bees did badly through June and July, owing to the grasshoppers eating up all vegetation. Linn bloom lasted only 7 days. My 50 colonies would not have averaged over a quart of bees, when the Linn trees came in bloom. I have had only 5 swarms.

2d. The prospect for the balance of the season is very flattering. I have extracted one thousand pounds to date, and will get over 200 lbs of box honey, and my hives are full of bees and honey now.

3d. The best honey plant here this season was smart-weed. It commenced blooming about 1st of Aug., and will last until frost. Golden-rod commenced blooming about the 1st of Sept., and is still in bloom. These are the only honey-producing plants except white clover, and there was none this season; the grasshoppers ate it all up.

I have now twelve hundred pounds of honey that I have been offered 18 cts. per pound. J. L. SMITH.

Ray Co., Mo., Sept. 10, 1875.

I shall reply to your interrogatories in Sept. No., in the order in which you place them:—

1st. Bees used nearly all their honey this summer to promote breeding; have increased my stock 50 per cent. by artificial swarming; have taken but little comb or extracted honey.

2d. No prospect beyond late buckwheat and a few wild flowers.

3d. Our honey-producing plants are: 1st., fruit blossoms and locust; 2d., white clover and linden, (the native linden is much better than the English); 3d., buckwheat. It has been the misfortune of our farmers to plant the *gray buckwheat*; this is the first season it has given us any honey for ten years past.

4th. White clover came into bloom June 23d. Linden bloomed July 4th; each lasted about 6 weeks.

WM. S. BARCLAY.

Beaver Co., Pa., Sept. 6, 1875.

My twenty-five stocks wintered through all right, in a cave which I made for the purpose. They did well until after fruit blossoms, then a honey-dearth occurred, caused in the first place by dry, and then very wet weather, which lasted until the latter part of July, when they began to do better, and have continued to do well up to this date. Have taken about 450 lbs. of

extracted honey, and increased to thirty-nine stocks nearly all full.

The prospect now is that the bees will continue to gather honey until sometime after frost. I may yet make a few swarms and extract a considerable amount of honey.

The best three honey-plants in this section are: white clover, bass-wood and buckwheat. White clover blossoms from May till after frost, but does not secrete much honey after the first of July. Bass-wood blossoms about the first of July and lasts about two weeks. Buckwheat blossoms from the last of July, generally, until the first frost. T. W. LIVINGSTON.

Washington Co., Iowa, Sept. 7, 1875.

MR. EDITOR:—This is my report:—1st. Increase four to one; commenced in the spring with sixteen, increased to sixty-five stocks. Honey, nearly 500 lbs of box honey. This was done previous to August 20th, at which time we had a frost which killed the corn and buckwheat, and second crop of white clover, just as they began to yield honey. Three swarmed two or three days before the frost, which will have to be fed, as there has been no honey since. Some pollen has been gathered.

2d. No prospect for any more honey this year.

3d. Wild raspberry blossoms, white clover and bass-wood are all in abundance this year. Bass-wood gave honey only about three days, instead of fifteen or twenty day.

4th. Being a stranger here I cannot tell the commencement of a yield of honey, nor what plants produce it.

I am greatly interested in bees, and the success I have had with them during the past two years have given me over four hundred per cent. on the capital invested. Last year I sold twenty-seven stocks, and this year ten stocks. I have been very successful in my manner of wintering my bees. The upper ventilation has been run to the extreme. It may answer for very strong stocks, but for weak ones or medium it is death. I give but little, and that only in proportion to the strength of stock, and my cellar is ventilated by a stove pipe inserted in my sitting-room. The stove-pipe is four feet above the floor, with a damper to close or open at will, and the pipe extends down through the floor to within fifteen inches of the bottom of cellar. This makes it as pure and sweet as an upper room. My thermometer in the cellar is kept from 35 to 45 degrees above zero, and those who can winter well, can make bees pay. In this section I predict a great loss of bees, for two reasons: first, want of stores, and second, lack of young bees, raised this fall, to live late enough in the spring to supply the loss. DAVID BROKAW.

Clark Co., Wis., Oct. 2, 1875.

DEAR EDITOR.—Our bees have not done as well as usual. On account of the cold weather, bass-wood yielded but little honey, and white clover did but a trifle better.

Some of my neighbors claimed to have Italian bees, but as I had seen many at exhibitions, I did not think them pure, so I sent to Barnum & Peyton for six full colonies of Italians, and these proved to be the only ones here of pure stock. These colonies were put up so well that they would have carried to China without damage. In the whole six colonies I failed to find an impure bee, and, of course, I was well pleased with them. My main trouble thus far has been to winter well. A sure and safe plan of wintering would be a boon, indeed. GEO. T. BURGESS.

Lucknow, Ont., Oct. 5, 1875.

I will give my report on bees. I started last spring with six swarms. I increased to nineteen; lost three by running away, and three I doubled with others. I took 300 lbs. of box-honey. Our main dependence is white clover, bass-wood and buckwheat or golden-rod.

C. S. WELLMAN.

Bremer Co., Iowa, Sept. 17, 1875.

In answer to questions, we report as follows: 1. No surplus honey. Increased from 78 to 101 swarms.

2. There is no prospect for surplus honey; but enough to keep bees busy during the winter for their own consumption.

3. White sage, buckbush or berberry, sumach.

4. White sage blooms in April. The berberry blooms several times during the summer. It is now in blossom in our canon for the fourth time since April. Sumach generally begins with August, and lasts a month or more. Our ranche is within the frost-stricken belt (frost of April 5th), which accounts for the poor return.

BRUNK & BRUCK.

Los Angeles, Cal., Sept. 17, 1875.

Last fall and winter proved very disastrous to many of the apiaries in this State. More than two-thirds of my bees died. Others have had about the same amount of "bad luck"; the fates in the form of the drouth and grasshoppers, have been against us. But since the middle of June bees have been doing well; swarms have been frequent this fall, and a good average of honey per colony has been procured. The pasturage this fall has been sufficient for almost an unlimited number of colonies. Crops are good, and everything indicates a rapid recovery of the country from its past reverses.

If, from the calamities of the past, we

but learn how to attain success under difficulties, we may yet hope to make the honey-bee a success in this State.

M. A. O'NEIL.

Douglas Co., Kansas, Sep. 24, 1875.

DEAR JOURNAL:—In response to your enquiries, let me say:

1st. I commenced in the spring with five colonies, (Italians); have taken about 150 lbs. of comb-honey, and increased to 28 hives, one of which is working in top boxes, and several others now ready for surplus boxes. I have had but three natural swarms this year, all the rest being artificial.

2d. Prospect good for the balance of the season, which will last to Dec. 1st., and possibly until Christmas.

3d. I cannot say with any degree of certainty what are our best honey-producing plants. The Spanish persimmon, mezquite and anagua seem to be the favorites of the little workers, but they do not last very long; varying with the season from one to two weeks. The mezquite and anagua bloom twice during the year, spring and fall.

4th. We have countless varieties of wild flowers from which the bees gathered honey from early in February until the 15th or 20th of Dec. You can see from my success that this is a bee-country. I think that if I had used the extractor, I could have still further increased my stocks, and saved several times as much honey, as the honey has been in the way of the queen all the season.

J. W. DUNN.

Corpus Christi, Texas, Sept. 13, 1875.

1st. Very good. Hives that did not swarm gave me one hundred pounds box-honey. My stock hives all gave two swarms each, and some of them gave three.

2d. No more surplus honey this season; my bees being kept in the city, I have not the benefit of buckwheat.

3d. Dandelion, fruit and white clover.

4th. Dandelion blooms April 11th; fruit blooms about the last of April; white clover blooms May 10th, and continues until about August 1st. THOS. BRASEL.

Portland, Oregon, Sept. 18, 1875.

DEAR SIR:—In compliance with your request under special:

1st. We have had but few swarms, and from 200 hives we have taken only 32 lbs. honey.

2d. We only expect to divide and make swarms.

3d. Mountain clover white sage, and buckwheat are the three best honey-plants. Mountain clover begins to bloom the last of March, and continues until the middle of May. White sage begins May 1st, and

continues till July. Buckwheat begins to bloom about June 1st, and continues till the last of October. GEO. B. WALLACE.

San Bernardino, Cal., Sept. 18, 1875.

I commenced the season with 16 stands of bees, in good condition. I think I never saw hives so full of brood as they were in the early part of the season, and the prospect was flattering; but a cold spell in April killed the fruit bloom; then followed a dearth, which completely used up the white clover.

We had honey-dew for some time in June, which seemed to deceive the bees in regard to the season, as I had quite a number of swarms, some of which were returned to the parent stocks.

The latter part of the season has been poor. Buckwheat and fall flowers yielding scarcely anything. Result, 24 stocks of bees, without half enough to winter on. I have united some stocks, and am feeding for winter, and hoping for better times.

The principal honey-plant in this section is white clover. Linn is not plenty, and buckwheat seems to yield but little honey.

C. P. McCURE.

Allegheny Co., Pa., Sept. 27, 1875.

DEAR EDITOR:—In response to queries in September number:—

1st. A year ago I bought 100 stands of bees in Langstroth hives, as used here. Increased mainly by artificial swarming. Lost some of the old stock and some of the new swarms. Have now about 140 stands. But little surplus honey. What I have, was taken from brood-combs. Heavy frosts in April, and want of spring-rains, cause of failure of honey this year. I live between 20 and 30 miles from the coast. Near the coast the frost did no damage, (see "Amateur's" reports in Aug. and Sept. No.)

2d. Will get no surplus after this. Some stocks will have to be fed. Bees may yet store some honey from flea-weed, and a few other fall flowers. Breeding well, and carrying in plenty of pollen.

3d. White sage, sumac, and yellow or wild alfalfa.

4th. Sage generally commences some time in May, and lasts about six weeks. Sumac comes in, right after sage, and lasts till the latter part of July. Wild alfalfa blooms at same time as both the former.

This year the barberry or buckbush has given more honey, and bloomed longer than any other plant in my neighborhood.

WM. MUTH-RASMUSSEN.

Los Angeles Co., Cal., Sept. 17, 1875.

DEAR EDITOR:—Last year I went into winter quarters with 30 colonies; six were short of provisions, and died. During the spring we lost three colonies; the bees left their hives and united with others. That left twenty-one swarms, which I had

to feed from the time we took them out of the cellar until fruit trees bloomed, which was six weeks. Fed them about one dollar's worth of sugar per day. I gave them what comb they could use and cover, and added empty comb as they increased in strength. I helped the weaker colonies with brood from the stronger, and when white clover came all were strong.

They went to swarming instead of storing honey. We clipped the queen's wings to prevent this. They then settled down and went to work, and to this time we have taken about 1000 lbs. of extracted, and 300 lbs box-honey, and increased our colonies to forty.

Shall not extract much more, for I do not intend to be short of supplies this year.

The bass-wood yielded but little honey, but white clover was so abundant that we hardly missed the bass-wood. Our principal resources are white clover, linn and buckwheat; we have also, mustard, catnip, smart-weed, golden-rod, iron-weed, and a multitude of other honey-producing plants, which greatly help in their seasons.

The demand for extracted honey is very small, almost no call for it at all. There has been so much said and written on the subject that people are afraid of it. I do not see what will restore it to the confidence of the people, but it must be done. All engaged in bee-culture in this vicinity, have gained courage for all have been successful. MRS. S. G. VAN ANDA.

Delaware Co., Iowa, Sept. 7, 1875.

DEAR JOURNAL:—Our best honey-plants for spring are: maple, elm and tame grass. For fall, heart's-ease has superceded buckwheat. Bees are doing well, and the prospect is good.

WM. FAULKNER.

Switzerland Co., Sept. 24, 1875.

I notice in the JOURNAL, come complaints from almost all parts of the country, that the bees are doing nothing. I am happy to report that this is not the case in regard to this part of central Illinois, (Champaign Co.). In the early part of the season they did not do very well on account of the excessive rains, and but little honey was stored, beyond the immediate requirements of the hive, till linn came into bloom; during which time we had less rain, and they filled their hives pretty full, but stored very little in boxes. About the 10th of August, when buckwheat commenced blooming, they began their summer's work in earnest, and I have never seen bees do better than they have done since, and are still doing.

Just as the regular swarming season came on and the bees had made all preparations for it, the rains interfered and stopped them.

My hives have mostly been full of bees all summer, and about the middle of Aug. they commenced swarming, and I have had more or less swarms almost every day since, sometimes four in a day,—had one to-day.

The first two I gave separate hives, but I began to fear they were going to overdo the business, and I put all the rest back, consequently they are strong, and are storing honey finely. The two that I gave hives the middle of August, have their hives full, and are at work in boxes. I have had about twenty-five swarms since that time, and how long it will continue I cannot tell.

2d. The prospect for a good run of fall honey was never better, if frost holds off.

3d. The three best honey-producing plants we have, are usually white clover, linn, (near timber), and buckwheat; but this year white clover has not done as well as usual; for this season, the list would be, linn, buckwheat and heart's-ease. The latter is very abundant. The corn fields and grain fields are filled with it, and it is an excellent honey-plant.

4th. Linn continues in bloom two or three weeks; heart's-ease and buckwheat, with other fall flowers, will continue till frost.

J. G. THOMPSON.

Champaign Co., Ills., Sept. 8, 1875.

ED. JOURNAL.—Our honey season commenced about July 20th, on sumach, and has been favorable ever since. Previously our bees were at the point of starvation. We never lose colonies from any cause. After the spring sales, we commenced the season with twenty-five colonies, and one of them was queenless. We have taken 128 lbs. extracted per colony of old stock, and \$22.50 worth of nice box-honey, and will get enough to make from 150 to 175 lbs. of extracted, per colony, and increase to forty-four colonies. I shall double up some of them this fall. This has been the best season I have ever known in this country.

The three best honey-producers are: honey-dew, from 20th of May to 20th of June; sumach, 20th of July, and lasts three weeks; heart's-ease, and a yellow flower, looks like a bastard spanish-needle. Both of these grow in stubble fields quite profusely, in wet seasons, and produce more or less honey during all the fall.

E. LISTON.

Cedar Co., Mo., Sept. 13, 1875.

DEAR SIR:—I report the following, in reference to the "Special to your readers," in your September journal:

1. I commenced July, 1874, with one Italian and five black colonies. Closed the year with eight Italian and two black colonies. The spring of 1875 was very late, and consequently short. Summer came in soon after spring commenced,

In consequence of it the swarming season was short, and I could only succeed to give the two black colonies Italian queens; only divided one hive, as the other colonies seemed to be rather weak; had natural swarms, and have now sixteen *medium* colonies; six pure, the balance hybrids, but all large, strong bees. The honey season was very good, but short, on account of dry weather. I had about 400 lbs. of extracted honey.

2. If we do not get *too much* rain now, I think this season will be better than the last.

3. Corn, cotton blossoms, wild-flag, visage-tree, and a number of prairie and bottom flowers.

4. We have blossoms from the beginning of March to the middle of December, and even in winter bees find honey in the bottoms. The worst season for us is *summer*, from June to the end of August. The winter is nothing. If it is even cold during nine days, there will be a warm day, when they can fly out, clean themselves, and if not too far from the bottom, will gather a little.

CHARLES C. SAGE.

Victoria, Texas, Sept. 17, 1875.

DEAR JOURNAL:—In response to your request I will say that my success to this date has been very good, as to honey, since the 15th of July. I got only a little surplus honey before that. As a specimen of how my bees have been doing in the latter part of the season, I will say that on the 12th of August, I drove the queen and a fair sized swarm of bees out of a gum-hive that I bought last spring, giving the new colony only one frame of comb, and the 1st of September I cut from the new colony 25½ lbs of bright honey, and sold it at 25c. per lb. to a neighbor, and left the bees about three frames of comb. My colonies averaged one swarm each. I have since transferred the bees and comb from the gum-hive, getting, at the time of transferring, 24½ lbs. of dark honey, which I sold at 20c. per lb., and the transferred bees are doing well with five frames of transferred and some new comb.

The prospect for the balance of the season is fair. If we have a good rain soon, it will be very good.

The best three honey-plants in this locality are buckwheat, smart-weed, and sumach. My bees have been provided with a succession of blossoms since the first of July, and will be until frost comes. Of smart-weed, I will say that it began to yield honey in the fore part of August, but has now almost ceased to blossom, on account of the dry weather, but with a good rain it may be very plenty until frost, which may come here about the first of October. The sumach furnished a scanty supply in the early part of June, and is doing a little good now; it was very

abundant in the latter part of July. Clover is almost unknown here, as the people have but very little red or white, and there is but one man in the county who has any alsike. It is beginning to attract attention, however. I expect to sow some white and alsike next winter, and get two of my neighbors to do likewise. J. STUART.

Webster Co., Mo., Sept. 6, 1875.

MR. EDITOR:—I commenced this spring with five swarms, which were very weak; increased by artificial and natural swarming to sixteen; have extracted 10½ gallons; have taken off 325 lbs. box-honey. There are over 300 lbs. of unfinished boxes on the hives yet.

The prospect here is good yet, until frost. The best plant here is the blue nervine, commencing to bloom about the first of July, and continuing until frost. 2d, fire-weed, commencing about the first of August, and lasting about two weeks. 3d, boneset, beginning the latter part of August, and lasting until frost.

ROBERT FORSYTH.

Lenawee Co., Sept. 9, 1875.

Bees have done well here, this season, in gathering honey, but the swarms were few. My stocks averaged 50 lbs. of box-honey.

2d. The season for honey is over.

3d. Apple blossom, locust blossom, and red and white clover.

4th. Apple blossoms commence about May 1st, and last two weeks; locust commences to blossom about June 1st, and lasts about one week; clover, both red and white, commence about June 1st, and last until July 10th; then there is a dearth in honey-producing plants until August 1st, when the second crop of red clover commences to bloom, and lasts till about Sept. 1st.

ELIAS HERSHEY.

Lancaster Co., Pa., Sept. 8, 1875.

I had nine hives in spring, one very weak, five medium, and three strong ones. I have increased to nineteen (all artificial except two); one swarm went off in May. I have sold \$55 worth of honey, about one-fourth comb, at 30c., the balance, extracted at 20c. retail. The honey was all taken by July 25th, since then they have been gaining slowly all the time, from buckwheat and weeds. We had a frost, on the 11th inst., so I suppose the season is nearly over. We had a hard frost in April, and consequently no fruit blossoms. I had to feed about \$15 worth of sugar.

Fruit trees, dandelions, sugar-maple and white clover, are the best sources of supply. There is no bass-wood within about three miles of me. J. WINFIELD.

Trumbull Co., O., Sept. 15, 1875.

1st. Honey, nothing; increase of swarms, five-sixths.

2d. Prospect for the balance of the season, nothing.

3d. Only one good honey-plant, which is white clover. The trees are locust, linn and apple.

4th. Clover, first of June, continues six weeks; locust, about the same time, lasts about one week; apple, about the middle of May, lasts about one week; linn, about the first of July, lasts about one week.

A. J. FISHER.

Columbiana Co., O., Aug. 13, 1875.

PELHAM & COBB, Maysville, Ky., report for 1875, as follows: Apiaries, two. Loss in winter, ten colonies; number in yards May 1st, 51; number in yards Sept. 1st, 84. Yield of honey; extracted 810 lbs.; comb, 100 lbs. Extracted from July 1st until 10th, when rainy weather stopped work.

Best honey-plant, white clover. Second best, linden tree. Third best, black locust. Honey season (for surplus) usually begins the last of May, and ends the first of July. No buckwheat raised in this section.

September 7, 1875.

DEAR EDITOR.—1. The past winter was a hard one on bees. Nearly all died in this section. Poor honey and dysentery were the cause. I commenced the winter with twelve swarms, Italians and hybrids. Lost nine. The spring was wet and cold. bees began raising brood about June 1st. I had a plenty of empty comb, and have now fourteen strong swarms, besides losing four that went to the woods. They have enough honey to winter on, but no surplus.

2. Poor prospect for balance of the season.

3. Three best honey-plants are, clover, buckwheat, and a late yellow flower that grows on the marshes. I do not know its name.

WM. MACARTNEY.

Steuben Co., Ind., Sept. 19, 1875.

1st. I had twelve colonies to commence the season with, some weak; have increased to twenty-six strong ones, and have taken 1,800 lbs. of honey, mostly of linden and bass-wood.

2d. Expect to get four or five hundred pounds more before frost.

3d. The poplar, linden and wild fall flowers.

4th. Poplar in May, linden in July, and fall flowers about the first of Sept.

W. W. OLIVER.

Marshall Co., Tenn., Sept. 9, 1875.

I commenced the season with six stands; added one swarm. Have taken 1120 lbs. of extracted, and 76 lbs. of comb-honey.

Have 75 or 100 lbs. in surplus combs, not yet extracted. About 500 lbs. was gathered from sumac; the balance from a plant that I do not know the name.

G. M. HOADLEY.

Pettis Co., Mo., Oct. 6, 1875.

DEAR EDITOR:—I have 52 swarms; 48 gave surplus in supers. Have taken 3620 lbs. of honey from them—this averages 75½ lbs. to the hive. If the weather holds favorable, I shall get 4000 lbs. I don't extract much, as the comb-honey sells so much better. I get 25 cents for it by the quantity. Twenty hives averaged 100 lbs. to the hive. The bees of my neighbors will not average 20 lbs. to the hive. The three best honey-plants are, clover, linn, and buckwheat.

JOHN M. BENNETT.

Bremer Co., Iowa, Sept. 10, 1875.

I have increased five weak stocks to nine good ones, and taken about seventy-five pounds of machine honey. No more honey this season.

We have five good honey plants: red-raspberry commences the last of May and lasts about three weeks. Two years ago I got all my surplus from it, as a severe drouth destroyed the clover; never got so much from it before in one season, for nineteen years. White clover commences about the middle of June and lasts three to five weeks, and is our main dependence. Bass-wood comes about the middle of July, and lasts only a week or ten days. Last year and three years ago most of my surplus was gathered from it. None this year. Buckwheat comes in Aug., lasting about three weeks; is very useful to the bees, but does not often give much surplus, as but little is raised. Golden-rod comes in Aug., and in Sept., lasting two or three weeks, and helps stock up hives with bees and honey for winter; seldom fails of helping some. This season raspberry and bass-wood failed, clover was extra good, buckwheat fair, and golden-rod doing nicely thus far.

A brother of mine, sixteen miles away, has increased one swarm to three good ones (had empty combs), and taken seventy-five pounds of machine honey.

J. L. HUBBARD.

W. Chesterfield, N. H., Sept. 6, 1875.

MR. EDITOR:—This has been a poor season for bees. From 140 stands at the commencement, I have now only increased to 190, and have only taken 5,000 lbs. of honey; that was gathered from mellilot and blue nerrine. I consider mellilot the best honey-plant we have. My lowest average in eight years was 40 lbs. each; this year it seems that there was no honey in anything. I think catnip is the next best honey-plant to mellilot; of the latter, I expect to sow 40 to 60

acres next year. It will do to sow either in the spring or fall; I sow four or five pounds to the acre. If we expect profit from our bees, we must furnish them a plenty of honey-producing bloom.

Lee Co., Ill., Oct. 9, 1875. R. MILLER.

I put 80 stocks in the cellar; on March 29 I took them out in good condition, only losing two, but a few of them had the dysentery. For ten days they did splendidly. Then they commenced to "dwindle," and by the time the long spell of cold weather was over, I had 20 weak, and some queenless hives. We had no white clover nor fruit bloom. I sowed eight acres of alsike this spring. After the rain ceased, I extracted a few hundred pounds of really nice honey; it was gathered from rape. With alsike, rape and buckwheat, I think honey-raising can be made remunerative, besides the profit of it on a farm.

A. STIBBS.

De Kalb Co., Ill., Sept. 13, 1875.

For the American Bee Journal. Jottings.

Having bees, and having been associated with a practical apiarist for two years, and being an attentive student of apiculture, though on my first legs, I send you a few jottings, which will, like a "straw, show which way the wind blows," in the field covered by your Journal. In Sangamon county, white clover being late, swarming was also late, of course, and when the little creatures got in the way of it, they certainly lost discretion. A neighbor bought a colony of bees at a sale in March last, and I lately passed five colonies, all natural swarms, in his dooryard, and he was expecting another. My own have not been so wild, increase only 240 per cent. and are now rapidly gathering nectar, which is abundant. I have both Italians and blacks, and the former will, under some conditions, have honey sealed up first, and will grow stronger without swarming. I procured my Italian stock from A. Salisbury, of Camargo, Ill., who, to my mind, is one of the most conscientious apiculturists and queen raisers of the west. You may notify your readers that a deal with Mr. Salisbury is always "on the square." He is a Christian gentleman, and I take great pleasure in referring to him, as his unostentatious manner has kept his merits as a queen-breeder and an honest dealer within too narrow limits, for the good of apiculture in the west.

The continued rains of June and July have produced a wonderful crop of "smart-weed" in every cultivated field, and roadside, and in the ditches and "swales." The golden flower of the "spanish-needle" meets the eye. In

short, everything indigenous to this latitude as a fall honey-producer is in perfection, and bee raisers are happy. More anon.

W. W. CURNUTT.

Rochester, Ill., Sept. 1, 1875.

For the American Bee Journal. Practical Notes.

BEEES AND GRAPES.

I have had bees and grapes for over thirty years, and I never knew them to eat grapes at any time. I have never had any of the tender kinds of grapes; mine have been the Isabella, Catawba, Concord and Diana. They grow near the hives, and sometimes shade them. Two years ago I took a cluster of Diana grapes and fastened them on a hive three inches above the entrance; the next day they were there all safe. I then took my knife and opened three, and the next day the three were eaten except the skins. I opened some more, and the next day they were eaten. Then I opened the rest, and they ate them, but did not eat any on the vines.

BEEES LEAVING THEIR HIVES.

I have had bees leave their hives, and it was a mystery to me; but after a while it was plain enough. They would leave on a hot day; at first I supposed they disliked the hive, and put them in another, but after a while I found it was occasioned by the heat, so I put them back in the same hive, and then took cold water from the well and with a broom-brush sprinkled the ground and hive every half-hour until the air was cooler; and from this I learned in a hot day to sprinkle them when first hived, and also to raise the hive and give them air. I keep them in the shade.

Marcellus, N. Y.

A. WILSON.

For the American Bee Journal. Retrospection.

It is said "By others' faults, wise men correct their own."

It is desirable to be able to correct our own mistakes resulting in loss; and as far as may be, seek profit from the mistakes of others by avoiding instead of adopting them. I notice a few cases.

D. H. Ogden, Wooster, O. Seven old colonies. 25 new colonies, 40 lbs. of honey. This is 5 5-7 lbs of honey from each seven colonies. If we suppose it will require 60 lbs. for the consumption of each colony during summer and winter, we have consumed by the bees—surplus 40-1920—nearly 1-48. Then 1-49 of the product is surplus and 48-49 is consumed.

Jos. Clizbee, Woodbine, Iowa. Seven stands increased to ten—75 pounds extracted honey, 75-600—1-8; this is 1-9 of the product in surplus; and 8-9 consumed by the bees.

A. Boyd, Jay Co., Indiana. Doubled

his bees. No surplus. Much feeding required or loss in winter.

J. S. Brown, Winchester, Va. Forty-seven colonies, 200 lbs. surplus. Required for winter and summer consumption 2420 lbs. Surplus consumed, 200.2420; less than 1.12 lbs. That is a little less than 1.13 is given in surplus and a little more than 12.13 is consumed.

Should we be satisfied with a class of hives, giving us from 1.9 to 1.49 part of the product of our yields, gathered by our bees, and part of this extracted; when by adopting the best hive, we can have 2.3 of it in small surplus boxes suitable for market, at less than one-fourth the trouble and expense. With hives having from two to three thousand inches in the breeding apartment, and five to six lbs. surplus boxes of the aggregate capacity of 200 lbs. in intimate connection with the breeding apartment, from one to 200 lbs. may be averaged per colony; still the old course must be pursued.

Possibly, a survey of the whole field would disclose apiaries in hives of every class from which surplus was secured by smothering the colony with brimstone matches, by the box-hive with two or four surplus boxes on the top; by the large hive with side and top boxes; by the hive giving no place for surplus boxes, one giving surplus boxes for 20 pounds, another 60, another 100, and another 200 lbs.

That the last would be best for securing the largest amount, at the least expense, I have no doubt; but with some, the old methods are firmly and immovably established. Others have never heard of improvements; and it will require patience, perseverance, and effort to introduce to genial use, the best instrumentalities to secure the object. We depend much upon our excellent Bee Journals for the forwarding and success of the improvements. JASPER HAZEN.

Woodstock, Vermont.

For the American Bee Journal.
Comb Foundations.

DEAR AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL:—The invention of comb foundations meets a much-felt want. But don't it seem just a little as if some one in the ribbon business was making them, rather than one familiar with the wants of practical apiarists? At present they are made not to exceed six inches in width. Now, if to be cut up in strips for guide comb, this is all well enough, but many will want them to fill up entire frames. If a piece of foundation be large enough to fill the entire frame, it is easily fastened in, but if only six inches in width, then some piecing must be done, and the bees will sometimes make bad work in such

cases, to say nothing of the trouble to the operator in fastening in the pieces.

It may be thought that if a start of six inches be given, it is all the bees ought to ask, and they can make wax enough for the rest. Suppose the whole depth of comb required to fill a frame is eight inches; if six inches is furnished, the bees need to secrete wax for only two inches more, and they will readily do so, for some claim that they are better off to do some wax-making. But they will be almost sure to fill out with drone comb, thus depriving the comb foundation of half its value. Mr. Long, please give us at least eight inches in width.

B. LUNDERER.

For the American Bee Journal.
A Home Market.

All should endeavor to make as large a home market as possible. We should, before shipping our honey to the city, figure up the loss in breakage, cartage, leakage, and freight, and learn that it does not pay to ship any but our best honey—for dark honey is not in demand in the cities. I believe there is a great deal to be learned yet about the bee business. We can make a home market for thousands of pounds. The cry about adulteration, etc., has been a damage to the bee-keepers. All that "hue and cry" has been baseless and damaging to honey-producers. Consumers are now beginning to ask about adulterations, and, depend upon it, it is damaging the market. To all, we should say—keep still about it, and you will then be wise

Lee Co., Ill.

R. MILLER.

For the American Bee Journal.
House Apiary.

Last Spring I concluded to try bee-keeping. I had one of "Coe's House Apiaries" built under the supervision of Mr. Coe. It is large enough to hold twenty-five colonies.

May 20th, I put in five colonies; only three of these were good for anything. I have now, Sept. 10th, 23 nice colonies, all working, and will store honey enough to winter.

This is my first experience with bees. Old bee-keepers tell me it has been a very bad season for bees. Notwithstanding this, I have taken more box-honey from my young colonies than any other bee-keeper in the neighborhood, though some of them had a greater number of colonies to begin the season with than I have now.

I think my success due mainly to the House Apiary. I do not believe any one who tries Coe's House Apiary for one season will go back to the clumsy outdoor hive. I can take all the care of my

apiary, and find it only a pleasant recreation.

I see by the Gleanings that Mr. A. I. Root, of Medina, 20 miles from here, has built a House Apiary. And although he has not yet given the circumstances that led him to build it, I am quite sure he intends to do so, in justice to Mr. Coe, from whom he procured all the necessary instructions for building it.

M. J. STIBBS.

Wayne Co., O., Sept. 10, 1875.

Prevention of Swarming.

I had a little experience in trying to prevent swarming by clipping the queen's wings, as Mr. Langstroth suggests in a recent article. The queen would come out and try to travel to the swarm; but never tried to crawl back into the hive. Part of the swarm would find and cluster round her on the grass, after clustering on an apple tree. I returned her to the hive every day for about a week when one morning I found her dead. The whole swarm hung round the hive, all this time, and got so used to hanging round that they continued to do so until the young queen had hatched. When the honey season was over they had less honey than they would have had if the swarm had been hived at first.

J. L. HUBBARD.

W. Chesterfield, N. H.

For the American Bee Journal. Instinct of the Bee.

In building combs, bees make them a certain distance apart, and they should be kept frame to frame, just as the bees construct them. If artificial combs are mismatched, and not kept a uniform distance apart, such colonies will not do as well. For instance, if we take out one frame, and move the rest to make equal distances, they will be about three-eighths of an inch wider apart than the bees would naturally build, and the bees and queen could not readily pass from comb to comb. Bees go by instinct, and hence we should mark each frame, and place it back just as arranged by the bees.

AARON BENEDICT.
Bennington, Ohio.

For the American Bee Journal. Adulteration.—Mr. C. F. Muth.

On page 136, June number, Mr. C. F. Muth says: "I was astonished some time ago by one of our prominent (?) brethren, who maintained that sugar syrup, after it had passed through the honey sac of the bee, was as good honey as any." Can Mr. Muth, or any one else, tell us certainly what honey is? Is it not simply saccharine matter to which are added certain substances whose flavor indicates the

source from which it is derived, as also its having passed through the bee's sac, and its having remained some time in the hive? If the securing of these three conditions makes saccharine matter into honey, why not regard syrup, in which they are found, as honey? Will not such syrup produce like effects on the person using it? Mr. Muth talks, in the same article, of the "acid" as wanting in adulterated honey; and this want seems to him to constitute the chief difference between the pure and the adulterated—an opinion which appears to me probable. This "acid" is supposed to be *formic*, from microscopic glands in the sac, and is very powerful even in the smallest quantities, if the testimony of my wife's stomach be as true as it is emphatic. There are many persons who are very badly upset by eating a little honey, who are not injured by eating syrup.

JOHN FOTHERINGHAM.

Woodham, Ont., Aug., 1875.

Michigan Bee-Keepers' Association.

The eighth Annual Meeting of the Michigan Bee-Keepers' Association will be held in Kalamazoo, Michigan, December 1st and 2d, 1875. The first session will convene at one o'clock, P. M., Wednesday. Papers of scientific and practical value have been promised by many of our ablest and most experienced apiculturists; while the discussions are expected to be even more valuable than those of the previous annual meetings. The reputation of this Society as being one of the oldest and ablest of the kind in the country, together with the proverbial hospitality of the people of Kalamazoo, should be ample inducement for all who take an interest in scientific bee-culture. We scarcely need to add that a cordial invitation is extended to all, that every effort will be made to make the coming session a grand success.

HERBERT A. BURCH, Sec'y.

South Haven, Mich.

As bees breed no poison, though they extract the deadliest juices, so the noble mind, though forced to drink the cup of misery, can yield but generous thoughts and noble deeds.

The Los Angeles (Cal.) Herald says that at the present rate of increase it is estimated that there will be in four years one million stands of bees in Los Angeles, Santa Barbara and San Bernardino counties, which will produce annually one hundred million pounds of honey, worth \$20,000,000, which is more than the value of the sugar and molasses crop of Louisiana, Texas and Florida combined.

THE AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL.

Voices from among the Hives.

MILL CREEK, UTAH.—Sept. 20, 1875.—“Bees have done well in Salt Lake county, Utah, this season. In other portions of the Territory they have not done so well.”

J. MORGAN.

HENRY CO., IND.—Oct. 21, 1875.—“I look upon every copy of the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL as being worth the entire year's subscription to bee-men or those contemplating embarking in the business.”

THOS. REAGAN.

POINT COUPEE, LA.—Sept. 8, 1875.—“Bees quit gathering honey August 6th, and at this date are without any honey to extract and many entirely out; yet they are very strong. Expect honey again in 10 days.”

W. B. RUSH.

WYOMING CO., N. Y.—Oct. 4, 1875.—“DEAR SIR:—Packages of JOURNAL came all right, and were carefully distributed at the State Fair. I could have distributed 500 each of the bee-publications to good advantage, for of the hundreds of bee-keepers, I conversed with but few who took any of the periodicals devoted to bee-culture. There was a fine display of honey—both comb and extracted. I obtained the first premiums on both kinds. The second was awarded to Peter Miller, Chatauqua Co. My comb-honey was exhibited in my glass boxes.”

C. R. ISHAM.

CEDAR CREEK, N. J.—Oct. 1, 1875.—“I would suggest a few such questions as these, to be answered by the subscribers to the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL for insertion in some number during the winter.

1st. Describe the kind of hive you prefer for box-honey.

2nd. What size of frame do you use.

3rd. State your choice as to side or top boxes; also whether bees will store more honey with boxes at the ends of frames like the Alley, Farmers' Friend Hive, etc., than they will with boxes at the sides of the frames, like the Quinby and Jasper Hazen hives.”

E. KEMPTON, M. D.

COLUMBIA, TENN.—Oct. 1, 1875.—“Noticing in the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL an advertisement of “German Bee Sting Cure,” price \$1.00 per bottle. I sent Sept. 9th, to Mr. Adair, Hawesville, Ky., for a bottle. Waited several weeks and heard nothing from him; wrote again and heard nothing from him. If others meet with the same luck that I have, I would advise all to give him the “go by.”

WM. J. ANDREWS.

Will Gen. Adair please “rise and explain” this matter? Did the letters miscarry, or what was the cause. We feel sure that the matter can easily be cleared up, and our columns are open, of course, for that purpose.

PUBLISHER.

NORTH WAYNE, ME.—Sept. 30, 1875.—“My bees have done well this season. One colony has made sixty-five lbs. in boxes. There are several bee-keepers in this vicinity, but none but myself take any paper devoted to bee-culture.”

M. SMITH.

MAYSVILLE, KY.—Sept. 9, 1875.—“To show how easy it is to procure a subscriber for the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL, I will state that to-day a gentleman came into my place of business—(which is about a half mile from where I live.) About noon I noticed an Italian worker on the window. I remarked that it was a long distance for bees to follow their keeper. He wanted to know how I knew it to be one of my bees. I told him that it was an Italian; that mine were the only Italians that were in the neighborhood; for that reason I knew it was my bee. He said he was a bee-keeper; he got up and took the bee on his finger, and looked at its yellow bands. He was surprised to hear that Italians could be raised from a queen. He subscribed for the JOURNAL.”

WM. W. LYNCH.

MALONE, N. Y.—August 17, 1875.—We have had a short but good honey season while it lasted. White clover being the principal source. I have been testing the “New Idea Hive” during the past two seasons, with very satisfactory results. Bees wintered well in them, and I find them much the handiest to use extractor on. I use 20 frames, 13½ by 12 in. I have the only extractor in this part of the State, and find a ready home market for the honey, at 25 cents per pound. I have also been testing John Long's Comb-Foundation, and can say, they are all that could be desired. The bees building out the combs and the queen laying in them in four days. They are just the thing for beginners, like myself. I find the simplest way to fasten Foundation in frames is to fit a thin board inside the frame with cleats projecting beyond it. The board just thick enough to allow the foundation to rest in the center of the frame. Then pour a little melted rosin and bees-wax along the edge of Foundation and the top bar of the frame. The bees will soon finish the job.

O. L. BALLARD.

“Notes and Queries” are crowded out of this number.

The report of the Maury Co. (Tenn.) Bee-keepers' Society, is received, and will appear in our next issue.

Many articles intended for this number of the JOURNAL are crowded out by the Universal Reports for 1875. They will appear in our next.

American Bee Journal.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

Single subscriber, one year.....	\$2.00
Two subscribers, sent at the same time	3.50
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JOURNALS are forwarded until an explicit order is received by the publisher for their discontinuance, and until payment of all arrearages is made as required by law.

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Our New Club Rates.

We will send THE AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL and the following periodicals for one year, for the prices named below: THE AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL and

Novice's Gleanings for.....	\$2.50
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Moon's Bee World.....	3.25
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The Young Folks' Monthly.....	3.00
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Purdy's Fruit Recorder.....	2.25

The North American Bee-Keepers' Society meets at Toledo, Ohio, on the first Wednesday in December (first day of the month).

At the date of going to press, we have not received notice as to the arrangements made with hotels at that place, or for reduced fare on railroads. We know that members of the Society there are at work, and we are confident that all may go expecting small hotel bills, and either one-fifth fare, or to be returned free over leading railroads. Bee-keepers about Toledo were anxious to have the meeting there, and promised the Society a hearty welcome.

Let all who can, be present; that the meeting may be one that will be a benefit to all. We will issue our December number in season for notice of arrangements. Those wishing in advance of that time to know of the arrangements made may address: G. W. Zimmerman, Pleasant Grove, Napoleon, Ohio; H. A. King, Corresponding Secretary, 37 Park Row, New York, or E. S. Tupper, Des Moines, who is corresponding with railroads.

Honey Markets.

CHICAGO.—Choice white comb honey, 18@25c. Extracted, choice white, 8@12c.

Choice white comb honey is in good demand; also bright yellow. Extracted, dull; and for dark honey there is no call.

NEW YORK.—Quotations from E. A. Walker, 135 Oakland St., Greenport, L. I.

White honey in small glass boxes, 25c; dark 15@20c. Strained honey, 8@10c. Cuban honey, \$1.00 7/8 gal. St. Domingo, and Mexican, 90@95c 7/8 gal.

CINCINNATI.—Quotations from C. F. Muth, 976 Central Avenue.

MACHINE EXTRACTED HONEY IN SHIPPING ORDER:

1 lb jars (12 cases) per gross.....	\$39 00
1 lb " (12 jars) per case	3 50
2 lb " (12 cases) per gross.....	72 00
2 lb " (12 jars) per case.....	6 50

In bulk, 12 to 20 cents per pound, according to quality. No transactions yet in comb honey. CHAS. F. MUTH.

ST. LOUIS.—Quotations from W. G. Smith, 419 North Main street.

Choice white comb, 22@25c; Extracted, 12@14c; Strained, 6@9c.

SAN FRANCISCO.—Quotations from Stearns & Smith, 423 Front street.

White, in frames, 20@22 1/2c. Dark, 10 @12c. Strained, 7@11c. Beeswax, 27 @30c.

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circulars, containing testimonials and
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Great Western
Watch Works, **CHICAGO.**

\$5 to \$20 per day at home. Samples worth \$1
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Nov75y1

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agents, we have just
what you need. Our 9x11 Mounted Chromos out-
sell anything in the market. Mr. Persons writes:
"I struck out yesterday, and by working easy four
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profits for the forenoon as \$5; yesterday up to 2
o'clock she cleared \$7.50. We can prove beyond
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chromos in eleven working days. We have the
largest and finest assortment in the United States;
hundreds of choice subjects from which to select.
We will send you an assorted 100 of the best sell-
ing on receipt of \$6.00. Send in your orders or
give us a call. Sample by mail 25c., or 12 for \$1.

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Nov75y1

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Upon the anatomy and the enemies of Bees.

A set of 30 microscopic, colored pictures, which
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These plates that have been drawn by the En-
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1. A comb with the different sorts of cells.
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3. Worker's nymphs.
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5. Italian Worker-bee.
6. Italian Drone.
7. Head of the Queen (*antennæ, eyes and mandibulae*.)
8. Head of the Drone (*antennæ, and eyes*
9. Head of the Worker (*antennæ eyes and mandibulae*.)
10. Uncompounded eyes (greatly magnified.)
11. Compounded eye of worker.
12. Legs of the worker.
13. Organs of the mouth.
14. Organs of digestion.
15. Wing of the Worker.
16. Wax apparatus.
17. Stinging apparatus of the worker.
18. Stigmata, tracheæ and sacculi æris.
19. Nervous system.
20. Salivary glands in the head and thorax of the worker.
21. Generative organs of the worker and of the fertile worker.
22. Stinging apparatus of the Queen.
23. Throbbing repel.
24. Generative organs of the Queen with the "spermatheca."
25. Generative organs of the Drone.
26. Penis and spermatozoa.
27. Foul-brood with mycrowsalis.
28. Bee's enemies—Moth.
29. Bromia cœca et polyester gallicore mandibulae.
30. Sphinx atropos.

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STRONG in Bees and honey to last till Spring,
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Your hive received. I shall make 100 just like it.

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SOUTH NORWALK, CONN., May 31, 1875.

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NO WOOD ABOUT THEM.

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As we have procured the machinery for making every part on our own premises, we can supply Gearing, Honey Gates, Wire Cloth, etc., etc. Bearings, Stubs' Steel—Boxes, self-oiling.

July-11 A. I. ROOT, Medina, Ohio.

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